

SW



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/025,806	12/19/2001	Li Li	21402-224 AB (Cura 524 AB	6016
7590	03/24/2004		EXAMINER STRZELECKA, TERESA E	
Ivor R. Elrifi Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C. One Financial Center Boston, MA 02111			ART UNIT 1637	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/025,806

Applicant(s)

LI ET AL.

Examiner

Teresa E Strzelecka

Art Unit

1637

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Each Group detailed below reads on patentably distinct Groups drawn to multiple SEQ ID Numbers. The sequences are patentably distinct because they are unrelated sequences, and a further restriction is applied to each Group. For an elected Group drawn to amino acid or nucleic acid sequences, the Applicants must further elect a single amino acid or a single nucleic acid sequence (See MPEP 803.04).

It is noted that the restriction Groups are set forth as Groups I-XVII for convenience. However, each restriction Group actually comprises the numbers of Groups which read on each patentably distinct nucleic acid, polypeptide, or antibody specificity.

#### ***Election/Restrictions***

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 1-4, 38 and 40, drawn to an isolated polypeptide, classified in class 530, subclass 350, for example.
  - II. Claims 5-14, 39 and 42, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid, vectors and host cells comprising the nucleic acids, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1, for example.
  - III. Claims 15-17, 40 and 43, drawn to an antibody binding to a polypeptide of claim 1, classified in class 530, subclass 387.1, for example.
  - IV. Claim 18, drawn to a method for detecting a polypeptide using antibody, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1, for example.
  - V. Claims 19-21, drawn to a method of detecting the nucleic acid using a probe, classified in class 435, subclass 6, for example.

- VI. Claims 22, 23 and 50, drawn to a method of identifying an agent which binds to the polypeptide, classified in class 435, subclass 4, for example.
- VII. Claims 24 and 25, drawn to a method for modulating the activity of a polypeptide, classified in class 436, subclass 501, for example.
- VIII. Claims 26-29 and 48, drawn to a method of treating or preventing a GPCR<sub>X</sub>-associated disorder by administering to a subject a polypeptide of claim 1, classified in class 514, subclass 2, for example.
- IX. Claims 30-33, drawn to a method of treating or preventing a GPCR<sub>X</sub>-associated disorder by administering to a subject a nucleic acid of claim 5, classified in class 514, subclass 44.
- X. Claims 34-37 and 49, drawn to a method of treating or preventing a GPCR<sub>X</sub>-associated disorder by administering to a subject an antibody of claim 15, classified in class 424, subclass 130.1, for example.
- XI. Claims 44 and 45, drawn to a method of determining predisposition to a disease by measuring the level of expression of a polypeptide of claim 1, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1, for example.
- XII. Claims 46 and 47, drawn to a method of determining predisposition to a disease by measuring the amount of a nucleic acid of claim 5, classified in class 435, subclass 91.2, for example.
- XIII. Claim 50, drawn to a method for identifying a compound which interacts with an olfactory receptor polypeptide by contacting the host cell comprising the

polypeptide with a candidate compound, classified in class 435, subclass 361, for example.

- XIV. Claim 52, drawn to a method for identifying a compound which interacts with an olfactory receptor polypeptide by contacting the host cell comprising the adenovirus containing a nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide with a candidate compound, classified in class 424, subclass 93.1, for example.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions I and II are separate and distinct because the inventions are directed to different chemical types regarding the critical limitations therein. For Group I, the critical feature is a polypeptide whereas for Group II the critical feature is a polynucleotide. It is acknowledged that various processing steps may cause a polypeptide of Group I to be directed as to its synthesis by a polynucleotide of Group II, however, the completely separate chemical types of the inventions of Groups I and II supports the undue search burden if both were examined together. Additionally, polypeptides have been most commonly, albeit not always, separately characterized and published in the Biochemical literature, thus significantly adding to the search burden if examiner together, as compared to being searched separately. Also, it is pointed out that processing that may connect two groups does not prevent them from being viewed as distinct, because enough processing can result in producing any composition from any other composition if the processing is not so limited to additions, subtractions, enzyme actions, etc.
3. Inventions I and III are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product

Art Unit: 1637

as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the polypeptide of Group I could be used for an entirely different purpose such as in the method of Group VI, rather than for the production of antibodies of Group III.

4. Inventions II and III are separate and distinct, as the claims of Invention I are drawn to polynucleotides, while the claims of Group III are drawn to an antibody. These are differing biochemical entities having differing biochemical properties, structures and effects. Invention IV would require searching in areas unrelated to polynucleotides, and as such, would require an undue burden on the examiner if not restricted.

5. Inventions I and (IV, VI-VIII, XI, XIII) are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the polypeptide of Group I could be used for an entirely different purpose such as in making the antibodies of Group III, rather than in the methods of Groups IV, VI-VIII, XI, XIII.

6. Inventions I and (V, IX, X, XII, XIV) are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together, or they have different modes of operation, or they have different functions, or they have different effects. (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are not required one for the other in that the polypeptide of Group I is not required for the methods of Groups V, IX, XII, XIV.

7. Inventions II and (V, IX, XII, XIV) are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the polynucleotide of Group II could be used for an entirely different purpose such as in making the polypeptides of Group I, rather than in the methods of Groups V, IX, XII, XIV.

8. Inventions II and (IV, VI-VIII, X, XI, XIII) are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together, or they have different modes of operation, or they have different functions, or they have different effects. (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are not required one for the other in that the polynucleotide of Group II is not required for the methods of Groups IV, VI-VIII, X, XI, XIII.

9. Inventions III and (IV, X) are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the antibody of Group III could be used for an entirely different purpose such as in purification of the polypeptides of Group I, rather than in the methods of Groups IV and X.

10. Inventions IV-XIV are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together, or they have different modes of operation, or they

Art Unit: 1637

have different functions, or they have different effects. (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are directed to methods which have different method steps, starting materials and goals.

11. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

12. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

13. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

14. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. **Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product** will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.



In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re Brouwer* and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.**

Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

### ***Conclusion***

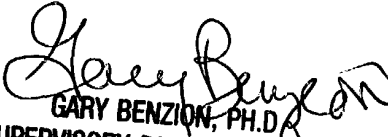
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Teresa E Strzelecka whose telephone number is (571) 272-0789. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-5:30).

Art Unit: 1637

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Benzion can be reached on (571) 272-0782. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TS  
March 19, 2004

  
GARY BENZION, PH.D.  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600  
3/22/04